

King Cove Deaths

1. **Tom Phillips** – After losing his leg in a fishing boat accident, Phillips was killed on Dec. 12, 1980, in a plane crash at King Cove while trying to connect with a flight waiting in Cold Bay to take him to an Anchorage hospital. *Anchorage Daily News, 12.15.1980.*
2. **Darien Gorsinger** – Community volunteer. From Washington state, fishing in King Cove. Died in a Dec. 12, 1980, plane crash evacuating injured Seattle fisherman Tom Phillips. *Anchorage Daily News, 12.15.1980.*
3. **Cathy Hoff** – King Cove nurse. Died Dec. 12, 1980, in plane crash transporting a severely injured patient out of King Cove. Cathy was the only care provider in King Cove at the time. *Anchorage Daily News, 12.15.1980.*
4. **John Dattolli** – Pilot. Died Dec. 12, 1980, in plane crash transporting patient out of King Cove. *Anchorage Dailey News, 12.15.1980.*
5. **Six people** – Died July 15, 1981, when their plane crashed into a hillside flying into King Cove in heavy fog and rain. Fatalities included Ernie Fife of Anchorage; George Brandell of Anchorage; Ruth Croxton of Barrow; Jim Shihey; Larry Woods; and Al Hughes of Seattle, Washington. *The Anchorage Times.*
6. **Christine Dushkin** – Suffered a heart attack and died of exertion climbing onto the Cold Bay dock following medical evacuation aboard a fishing boat from King Cove in 1982. She was 67.
7. **Mary Dobson** – Suffered from frequent seizures but often had to wait two or three days in bad weather before being able to reach medical treatment in Anchorage. She died in April 1983. She was age 53.
8. **Walter Samuelson** – Suffered a major heart attack and died after his body rejected a heart transplant, due to complications caused by being forced to wait two days for medical evacuation because of bad weather. Died Feb. 1, 1990.
9. **Wayne Brockman** – Died flying between King Cove and Cold Bay when his plane crashed into the mountain ridge north of King Cove in snow squalls on Feb. 17, 1990. *The Anchorage Times.*
10. **Ernest Mack** – Died in March 1997, after being forced to wait in King Cove for four days to get to medical care in Anchorage. He was 67.

11. **R. B.** (mother does not want her name released) – Lost newborn twins in July 2007, after going into labor prematurely and being unable to reach adequate medical facilities. Both babies were born weighing less than 2 pounds each. One baby lived just a week, the other died within two months.
12. **Harry Gould Sr.** – Suffered congestive heart failure but was unable, due to bad weather, to be flown to an Anchorage hospital for treatment in a timely manner. Died August 26, 2000. He was 80.
13. **Wayne Brokman** – Died Feb. 17, 1996, when the Peninsula Airlines plane he was piloting crashed in poor weather conditions on a flight between King Cove and Cold Bay. He was 42. *Anchorage Times* 2-18-96, *Anchorage Daily News* 2-19-96.

Total number of deaths: 19

Source: National Transportation Safety Board, Congressional Record, Anchorage Times, Anchorage Daily News, and testimony by the people of King Cove, Alaska.

Prepared by the Aleutians East Borough.